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Rock Bass Basics



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- Ballad Feels
- Rock Grooves
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TIM BOGART

ALBERT NIGRO



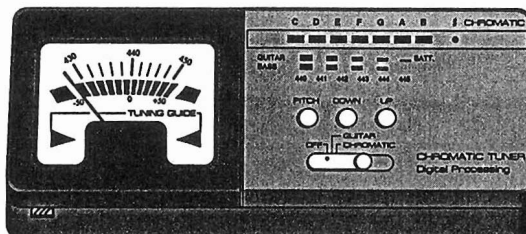
CONTENTS

	Page No.	CD Track
Introduction	2	1
Tuning Notes	2	
How to Tune Up	4	
Music Notation	5	
Rhythm Notation and Time Signatures	6	
Right Hand Techniques	7	3
Rock Ballad Feels	8	
Example 1: Slow Ballad	8	4
Example 2: "Stand By Me" Ballad	9	5
Scales	10	6
Example 3: "My Girl" Riff	11	7
Example 4: Ballad with Passing Tones	12	8
Example 5	13	9
Quarter Note Rock Feels	14	
Example 6	14	10
Example 7: Slide and Hammer-on	16	11
Example 8: "Rolling Stones Feel"	17	12
Example 9	18	13
Example 10: Ostinato Bass	19	14
Example 11	20	15
Eighth Note Rock Feels	22	
Example 12: "Z Z Top Groove"	22	16
Example 13	23	17
Example 14	24	18
Example 15	25	19
Example 16	27	20
Sixteenth Note Rock Feels	28	
Example 17	28	21
Example 18	30	22
Rock Shuffle and Boogie Feels	32	
Example 19	32	23
Example 20: Staccato Shuffle	34	24
Example 21	35	25
Example 22	37	26
Example 23	38	27
Example 24	39	28
Example 25	40	29
Example 26	41	30
Example 27	42	31
Tapping, Harmonics and Double-Stops	44	
Example 28	44	32
Example 29	45	33
Example 30	45	34
Example 31	46	35
Example 32	48	36

HOW TO TUNE UP

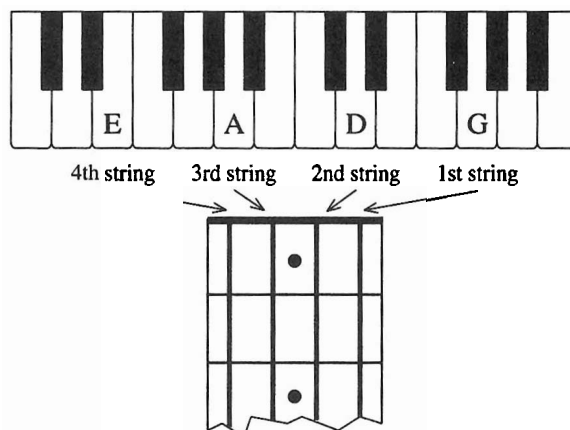
Electric Tuners:

Many brands of small, battery operated tuners, similar to the one shown below, are available. Simply follow the instructions supplied with your tuner.



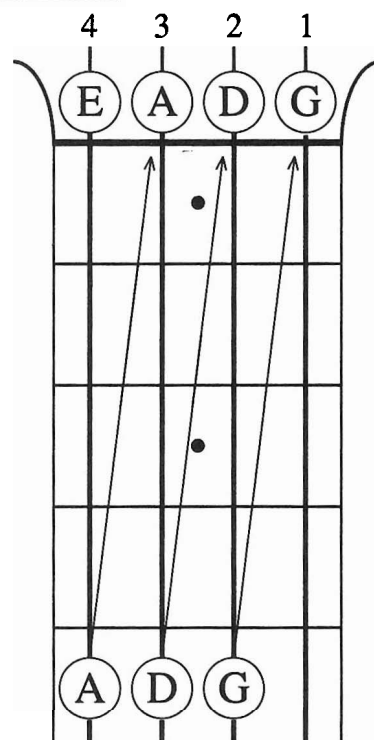
Tuning to a Piano or Electronic Keyboard:

An easy way to tune a bass is to a piano keyboard. The four strings of the bass are tuned to the keyboard notes shown in the following diagram.



Tuning the Bass to Itself (Relative Tuning):

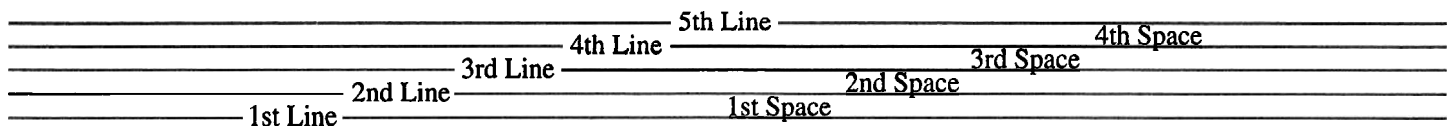
1. Tune the 1st string to G on the piano (or some other fixed pitch instrument, such as a pitch pipe).
2. Depress the 2nd string at the 5th fret. Play it and you will hear the note G, the same as the 1st string open. Turn the 2nd string tuning key until the pitch of the 2nd string matches that of the 1st string.
3. Depress the 3rd string at the 5th fret. Play it and you will hear the note D, the same as the 2nd string open. Turn the 3rd string tuning key until the pitch of the 3rd string matches that of the 2nd string.
4. Depress the 4th string at the 5th fret. Play it and you will hear the note A, the same as the 3rd string open. Turn the 4th string tuning key until the pitch of the 4th string matches that of the 3rd string.



MUSIC NOTATION

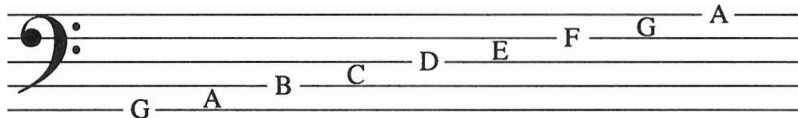
The rhythms and note names are indicated by the standard notation, and the location of those notes on the neck of the bass is indicated by the tablature. Here are some basic rules of standard notation:

Music is written on a staff, which consists of five lines and four spaces (between the lines):

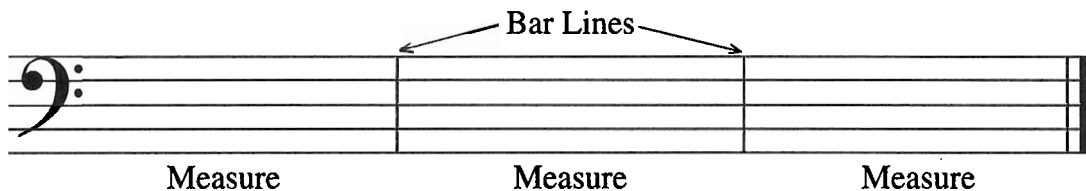


At the beginning of the staff is a bass clef (or F clef). The bass clef is used for all bass instruments.

The notes are written on the staff in alphabetical order. The first line is G:

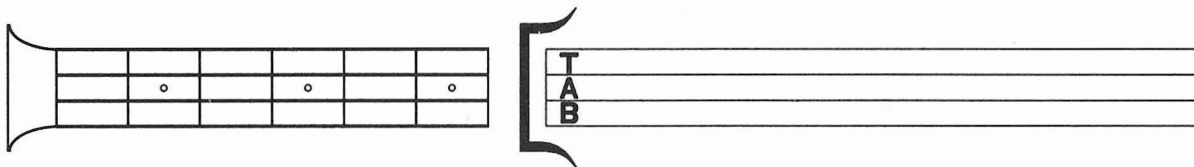


The staff is divided into *measures* by *bar lines*. A heavy double bar line marks the end of the music:

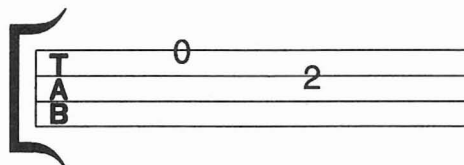


Tablature

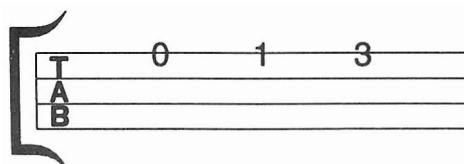
Tablature is commonly used in conjunction with standard music notation. Tablature illustrates the location of notes on the neck of the bass. This illustration compares the four strings of a bass to the four lines of tablature.



Notes are indicated by placing fret numbers on the strings. An "O" indicates an open string.



This tablature indicates to play the open, 1st, and 3rd frets on the 1st string.



RHYTHM NOTATION AND TIME SIGNATURES

At the beginning of every song is a time signature. 4/4 is the most common time signature:

$\frac{4}{4}$ Four counts to a measure
 $\frac{4}{4}$ A Quarter note receives one count

The top number tells how many counts per measure, the bottom number tells which kind of note receives one count.

The time value is determined by three things:

1) note head:  

2) stem:  

3) flag: 

 This is a whole note. The note head is open and has no stem.
 In 4/4 time, a whole note receives 4 counts.

 This is a half note. It has an open note head and a stem.
 A half note receives 2 counts.

 This is a quarter note. It has a solid note head and a stem.
 A quarter note receives 1 count.

 This is an eighth note. It has a solid note head and a stem with a flag attached.
 An eighth note receives 1/2 count.

Whole Note: 
 Count: 1 2 3 4

Half Note: 
 Count: 1 2 3 4

Quarter Note: 
 Count: 1 2 3 4

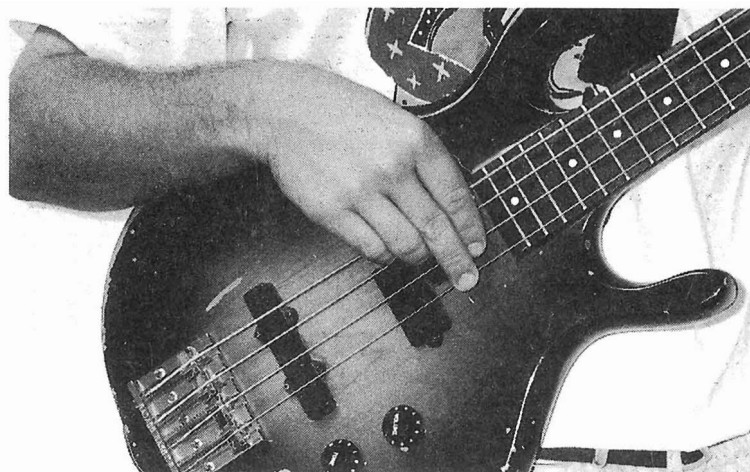
Eighth Note: 
 Count: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

RIGHT HAND TECHNIQUES

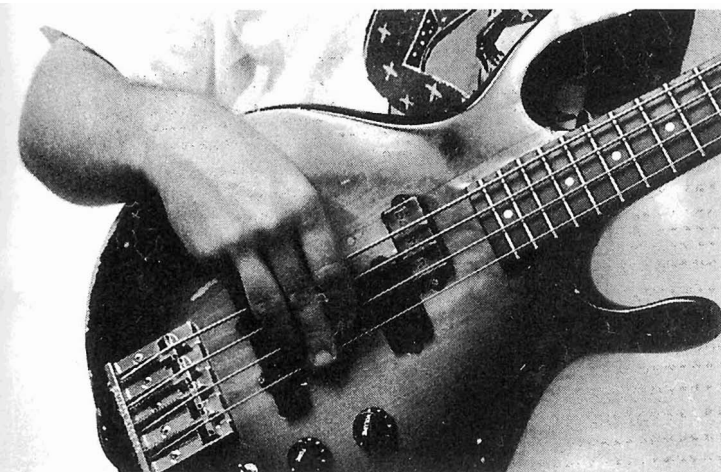
CD

- ③ When playing the examples, there are several different tone qualities that you can create with your right hand without ever touching the tone control knob on your bass or amplifier. This is done by positioning the right hand at various places on the bass and is necessary to achieve the correct sound for the style you are playing.

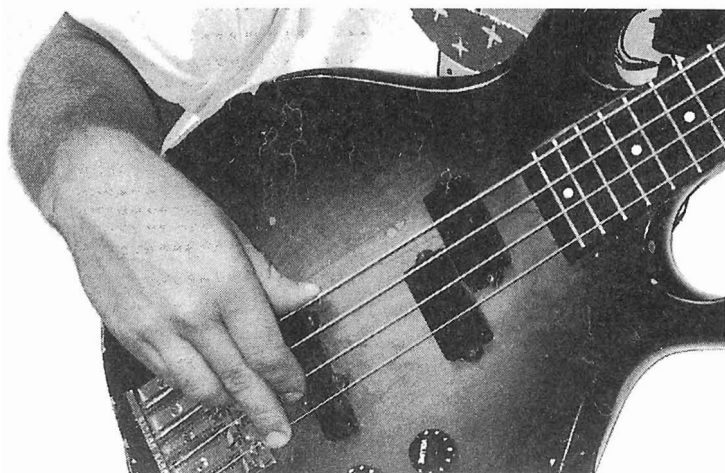
When playing ballads and long notes, such as whole and half notes, play up near the neck; this gives a full, rich sound.



When playing quarter and eighth note feels, play directly over the pickups; this gives a more percussive sound.



When playing sixteenth note feels, play back by the bridge; this gives a thinner, tighter sound with more definition.



ROCK BALLAD FEELS

Throughout this book we will cover many different classic rock grooves; some of them are fast sixteenth note rock feels, others are slow ballads and some even use power chords. Each one will help develop the techniques that you will need to know as a rock bass player. One of the most important things you need to be able to do as a rock bass player is to lock in with the drummer. This is done by matching the subdivision (the way each beat is subdivided) the drummer is projecting. Listen to the included recording to hear how to do this. Play along to help practice locking in. The first groove we will cover is a slow rock ballad.

CD 4 **Example 1: Slow Ballad**

This example demonstrates a slow ballad feel in the key of G major. A ballad is usually characterized as having a slow tempo and sad or melancholy quality. The example alternates between the root of the I chord (G) and the vi chord (Em), using a dotted quarter to eighth note feel. There is also a connecting line leading from the root of each chord, moving down chromatically from the G to the E and back up chromatically from the E to the G. This gives the line a little character in addition to connecting the roots of the chords. A chromatic connecting line moves up or down by half steps, sounding every pitch between the roots. Use your left hand to achieve separation between the notes by releasing the pressure on the string, lifting the string off of the fretboard to stop it from ringing.

The musical notation for Example 1: Slow Ballad consists of three systems, each with a treble clef staff and a bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The first system is for the G chord, the second for the Em chord, and the third for the G chord. Each system shows a melodic line in the treble staff and a bass line in the bass staff. The bass lines are marked with fret numbers (0, 1, 2, 3) and include a connecting line between the roots of the chords.

System 1: G

Treble staff: G4 (dotted quarter), A4 (eighth), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F#5 (quarter), G5 (quarter).

Bass staff: G3 (3), A3 (3), B3 (3), C4 (3), D4 (3), E4 (3), F#4 (3), G4 (3).

System 2: Em

Treble staff: E4 (dotted quarter), F#4 (eighth), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter).

Bass staff: E3 (0), F#3 (0), G3 (0), A3 (0), B3 (0), C4 (0), D4 (0), E4 (0).

System 3: G

Treble staff: G4 (dotted quarter), A4 (eighth), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F#5 (quarter), G5 (quarter).

Bass staff: G3 (3), A3 (3), B3 (3), C4 (3), D4 (3), E4 (3), F#4 (3), G4 (3).

CD

5 Example 2: "Stand By Me" Ballad

This example is another ballad feel. This one is similar to the song "Stand By Me" by Ben E. King. It is in the key of C major and moves in a standard I (C), vi (Am), IV (F), V (G) chord progression. To help make a smooth transition between the roots of the chords, this example uses **diatonic** rather than chromatic connecting lines (meaning the notes are from a particular scale, in this case C major).

C

Am

F **G** **C**

1. 2. 3.

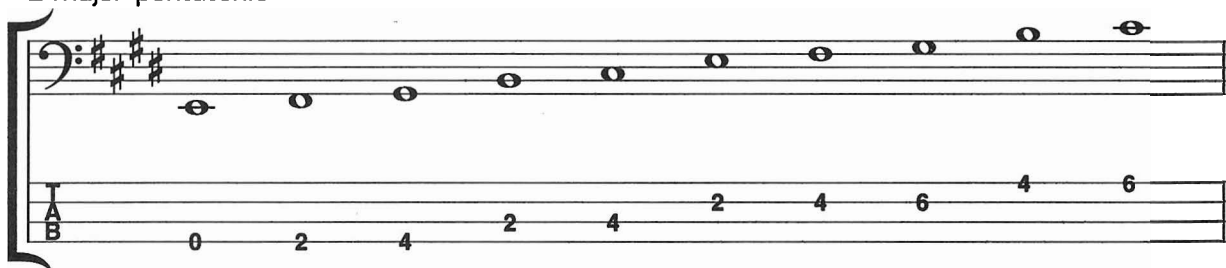
CD
6 Scales

Before moving on to the next example, there are two scales that you are going to need to know. As a rock bassist, you are going to find you do not need to know that many scales, but these two are very important. They are the major and minor pentatonic scales, and they contain the five primary notes from the major and minor scales.

First is the **major pentatonic**, which uses the root, second, third, fifth and sixth of the major scale.

E Major Scale: E F# G# A B C# D# E
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 E Major Pentatonic: E F# G# B C# E

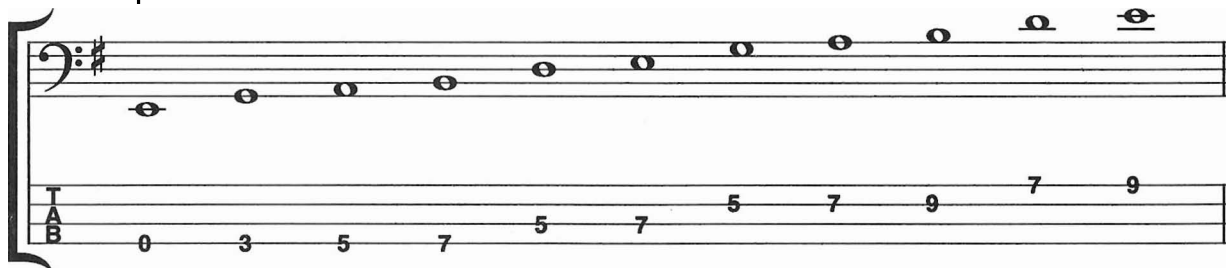
E major pentatonic



Next is the **minor pentatonic**, which uses the root, third, fourth, fifth and seventh of the minor scale.

E Minor Scale: E F# G A B C D E
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 E Minor Pentatonic: E G A B D E

E minor pentatonic



Both scales are demonstrated here using E as the root, but can be transposed to use any note as the root.

CD

7 Example 3: "My Girl" Riff

This example uses the E and A major pentatonic scales, starting on the root and ascending to the octave. It is based on the immortal bass line of the popular tune "My Girl" by the Temptations. It also contains a common line that walks down from the V chord (B7) to the I (E) which brings you back to the top of the song. This is sometimes called the **turnaround**.

Intro

E

Verse

E

A E A E

Bridge

A E A E F#m

Chorus

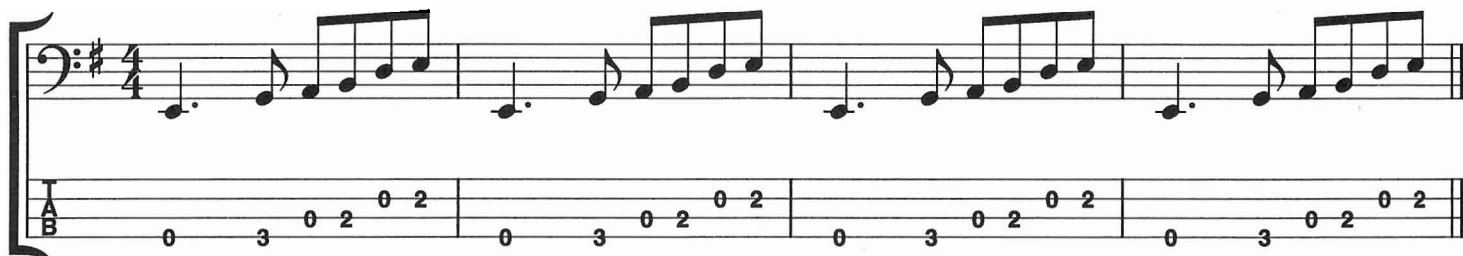
A B E F#m A B E

F#m

1. B A G#m F#m 2. B

This example transposes the “My Girl” riff to E minor, giving it a darker, heavier sound.

Minor pentatonic “My Girl” riff:



CD

8

Example 4: Ballad with Passing Tones

This is another example of a ballad that uses passing tones. It starts on the I chord (E), walks down the major scale to the vi chord (C#m) with the D# as a passing tone, then down to the IV chord (A) with the B as a passing tone, then down to the ii chord (F#m) with the G# as a passing tone, then walks up the E major scale, using the A# and D# as chromatic passing tones. This chord progression is very common and can be found in many popular rock and country ballads.

CD

9

Example 5

This example is a ballad feel in the key of C, introducing what is known as the **slash chord** (G/B). A slash chord occurs when the bass note is not the root of the chord, but is instead another chord tone, such as the third or fifth. This example uses several slash chords such as the G/B chord, where the bass is playing B (the third of the G chord), not the root. The example primarily descends through the C major scale and uses mostly half notes. Be sure to make the "right hand feel" consistent and all the notes the same length. Listen to, and lock in with, the drummer.

1. 2. 3.

Chords: C, G/B, Am, Am/G, F, C/E, Dm, C, G/B, Am7, G, F, C, F, C.

Bass line fret numbers: 3, 2, 0, 3, 0, 1, 0, 5, 3, 2, 0, 3, 0, 2, 3, 0, 1, 3.

QUARTER NOTE ROCK FEELS

This next section covers several quarter note rock feels. The feel of quarter note roots and simple lines is common to what is known as "stadium rock." When playing large venues, the bass player, when he or she gets too busy, will not be heard in the hall. Most of the exercises in this section concentrate on this quarter note feel.

CD

10 Example 6

This example uses quarter note roots throughout, alternating between A and G. To keep the example interesting there are several eighth note lines connecting each chord change, leading up chromatically or down diatonically to the root of the next chord.

The musical notation for Example 6 is presented in three systems, each consisting of a bass clef staff and a corresponding fretboard diagram below it. The key signature is A major (three sharps: F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4.

- System 1 (Chord A):** The staff shows a sequence of quarter notes: A2, A2, A2, A2, A2, A2, A2, A2, A2, A2. The fretboard diagram shows the root A on the 5th string, 5th fret, with the sequence of fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.
- System 2 (Chord G):** The staff shows a sequence of quarter notes: G2, G2, G2, G2, G2, G2, G2, G2, G2, G2. The fretboard diagram shows the root G on the 3rd string, 3rd fret, with the sequence of fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3.
- System 3 (Chord A):** The staff shows a sequence of quarter notes: A2, A2, A2, A2, A2, A2, A2, A2, A2, A2. The fretboard diagram shows the root A on the 5th string, 5th fret, with the sequence of fret numbers: 3, 3, 3, 3, 5, 5, 4, 4, 2, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0.

First system of music notation. The top staff is in bass clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The bottom staff is a guitar fretboard diagram with strings labeled T (top) and B (bottom). The fret numbers are: 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 1 2.

Second system of music notation, labeled 'G' above the staff. The top staff continues the melody. The bottom staff fret numbers are: 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3.

Third system of music notation, labeled 'A' above the staff. The top staff continues the melody. The bottom staff fret numbers are: 3 3 3 2 3 4 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0.

Fourth system of music notation, labeled 'G' above the staff. The top staff continues the melody. The bottom staff fret numbers are: 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 1 2 | 3 3 3 3.

Fifth system of music notation, labeled 'A' above the staff. The top staff continues the melody, ending with a whole note. The bottom staff fret numbers are: 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 2 3 4 | 0.

CD

11 Example 7: Slide and Hammer-on

This next example uses two new techniques: the **slide** and the **hammer-on**. To slide from one pitch to another, simply play a note and slide your finger to the next note, keeping pressure on the string. The hammer-on is done by hammering the string to the fretboard using the tip of any left hand finger. The note is sounded by the left hand attack (the right hand is not used).

Slide: ⁴ L.H. 1 1

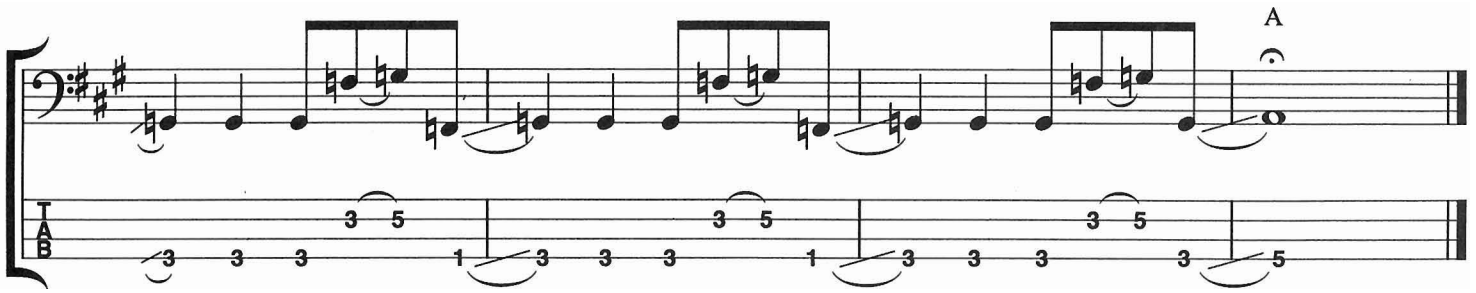
Hammer-on: 1 3

A

G

1. 2. A

G



CD

12

Example 8: "Rolling Stones Feel"

This example is very similar to many of the lines used by Rolling Stones bassist Bill Wyman. It uses the root, fifth and sixth of the chord, moving down then up the pattern. The pattern is based on the major pentatonic scale, using three of the five notes of the scale.



CD
13**Example 9**

This is very similar to Example 8, except it is based on the minor, rather than the major, pentatonic scale. The pattern is played over a 12-bar minor blues—a common song form.

System 1: Am

System 2: Dm, Am

System 3: E7, Dm, Am, E7(#9)

System 4: Am

System 5: Dm, Am

System 6: Em, Dm, Am

Fretboard Diagrams (Guitar):

- System 1: 5 3 0 3 5 | 5 3 0 3 0 | 5 3 0 3 5 | 5 3 0 0 3 4
- System 2: 5 3 0 3 5 | 5 3 0 0 3 0 | 5 3 0 3 5 | 5 3 0 0 3 0
- System 3: 7 5 7 7 5 | 5 3 5 3 | 5 3 0 3 5 | 0 0 0 0 0 0
- System 4: 5 3 0 3 5 | 5 3 0 0 3 0 | 5 3 0 3 5 | 5 3 0 0 5 3
- System 5: 5 3 0 3 5 | 5 3 0 0 3 3 | 5 3 0 3 5 | 5 3 0 0 5 6
- System 6: 7 5 7 7 5 | 5 3 0 3 | 0 | 0 3 0

CD
14**Example 10: Ostinato Bass**

This example introduces a technique known as **ostinato bass**. Ostinato is a big word which basically means that while the chords move, the bass note doesn't. In this case the bass pedals an E underneath the chords, starting on the low E and then adding the octave above as the dynamic level of the song rises, to make the feel more intense. Remember to be consistent with the "right hand feel" so that each note sounds similar to the next.

The musical score for Example 10: Ostinato Bass is presented in five systems. Each system consists of a treble staff and a bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The bass staff features a consistent E note (pedal point) throughout, with some octave changes indicated by '7' and '9' in the bass staff. The chords are labeled above the treble staff: N.C., E5, D, A, C, D, E5, D, A, C, D, E5, D, A, C, D, E5. The bass staff shows a consistent E note (pedal point) with some octave changes indicated by '7' and '9' in the bass staff.

CD

15 Example 11

Here we use the major pentatonic scale in what is known as an "and" feel. This is also referred to as syncopation, where the notes are played primarily on the up-beats. The up-beats are in-between the beats, and are called "and" (1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and). This example plays on beat 1, and then on the "ands" of beats 2, 3 and 4.

A7 E7

A7

E7 B7

A7 E7 E6

EIGHTH NOTE ROCK FEELS

This next section covers several eighth-note rock grooves. The exercises are similar to the exercises in the previous section in that they are mostly roots and simple passing lines, but using primarily eighth notes instead of quarter notes (two notes per beat instead of one). Be sure to alternate your left hand fingers when you practice to help increase your speed.

CD

16

Example 12: "ZZ Top Groove"

This example uses a groove similar to a song by the legendary rock band ZZ Top. This one is mostly roots with a chromatic line approaching each chord change, giving the impression of a "walking" movement. The example also adds the II chord (Am) and ends with some upper register **double-stops** and **chords**. Double-stops refer to playing more than one note at a time and are usually done in the upper register of the bass due to the overall low range of the instrument. When lower range notes are played together, they tend to sound muddy and the pitches are hard to perceive.

The musical notation for "ZZ Top Groove" is presented in four systems, each with a bass staff and a fretboard diagram. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4.

- System 1:** Labeled G7. The bass staff shows a series of eighth notes. The fretboard diagram shows fret numbers: 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 0 1 2 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 0 1 2.
- System 2:** Labeled C7 and G7. The bass staff continues the eighth-note pattern. The fretboard diagram shows: 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 0 1 2 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 2 3 4.
- System 3:** Labeled Am, D, and 1. G7. The bass staff shows a chromatic line. The fretboard diagram shows: 5 5 2 2 3 3 4 4 | 5 5 2 2 3 3 4 4 | 5 5 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3.
- System 4:** Labeled 2. G7. The bass staff shows a chromatic line. The fretboard diagram shows: 3 3 0 0 1 1 2 2 | 5 | 12 11 10 / 11 10 9 / 10.

CD

17

Example 13

This example is the same as Example 12, except it is indicated to play the notes **staccato** (by the dots over and under the note heads). Staccato means that the note is cut off sharply by stopping the string from vibrating. This can be done by releasing the pressure in the left hand, lifting the finger slightly off of the fretboard but not off of the string. Playing staccato makes the feel much sharper.

G7

First system of musical notation for Example 13. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The music consists of staccato eighth notes. The fretboard diagram below the staff shows the following fret numbers: 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 0 1 2 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 0 1 2.

C7

G7

Second system of musical notation for Example 13. The staff continues with staccato eighth notes. The fretboard diagram shows: 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 0 1 2 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 2 3 4.

Am

D

1. G7

Third system of musical notation for Example 13. The staff continues with staccato eighth notes. The fretboard diagram shows: 5 5 2 2 3 3 4 4 | 5 5 2 2 3 3 4 4 | 5 5 | 3 3 3 3 3 3.

2.

G7

Fourth system of musical notation for Example 13. The staff continues with staccato eighth notes. The fretboard diagram shows: 3 3 0 0 1 1 2 2 | 5 | 12 11 10 / 11 10 9 / 10 10.

CD
 18 **Example 14**

Here is an eighth note pattern in the key of E, using the root, fifth and flat seventh of the scale. To help solidify the groove there is a sixteenth note lick at the end of each phrase emulating a pattern played by the drums. The notes in this lick are muted. It is easier to play if the index finger is dragged across the strings, a technique commonly known as "raking."

R.H. i m i m i m i m i

rake -----

E7

A7

E7

B7

The first system shows a bass line in E major (one sharp) with eighth notes: E2, F#2, G#2, A2, B2, C#3, D3, E3. The guitar line has fret numbers: 7, 7, 9, 9, 7, 7, 9, 9, followed by two bends (marked with 'x'). The second measure has fret numbers: 0, 0, 7, 7, 5, 5, 7, 0.

1. E7 B7

The second system is marked '1.' and shows a bass line with eighth notes: E2, F#2, G#2, A2, B2, C#3, D3, E3. The guitar line has fret numbers: 0, 0, 7, 7, 5, 5, 7, 7, followed by four measures of a steady eighth-note pattern on fret 2 (2, 2, 2, 2).

2. E7

The third system is marked '2.' and shows a bass line with eighth notes: E2, F#2, G#2, A2, B2, C#3, D3, E3. The guitar line has fret numbers: 7, 7, 5, 5, 4, 4, 3, 3, followed by a measure with fret numbers 2, 0, 3, 0, 0, 0, and a final measure with fret numbers 9, 8, 7, 6.

CD
19 **Example 15**

This next eighth-note example can be divided into two sections. The first section uses ostinato bass (where the chords move but the bass note doesn't). In the second section, the bass line follows the chord changes, which makes the tune sound different. Remember to practice alternating the right hand fingers, keeping the notes steady and hitting the strings with the same finger pressure; that way the volume will be consistent.

A5

The fourth system shows a bass line in A major (two sharps) with eighth notes: A2, B2, C#3, D3, E3, F#3, G#3, A3. The guitar line has fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, followed by a measure with fret numbers 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

The first system of the score consists of two staves. The top staff is a bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It contains a melodic line with eighth notes. The bottom staff is a tablature line with the letters 'T' and 'B' at the beginning, followed by a series of numbers (0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0) representing fret positions. A first ending bracket labeled '1.' spans the final measures of both staves.

2. *8va*

0 0 0 14 14 14 14 0 0 7 0 0 5 0 0

The musical notation for the bass line of 'The Rose Tree' is shown in a single system. It consists of a bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is written in a simple, folk-like style. The first measure contains a half note G2, a half note A2, and a half note B2. The second measure contains a half note C3, a half note D3, and a half note E3. The third measure contains a half note F#3, a half note G3, and a half note A3. The fourth measure contains a half note B3, a half note C4, and a half note D4. The fifth measure contains a half note E4, a half note F#4, and a half note G4. The sixth measure contains a half note A4, a half note B4, and a half note C5. The seventh measure contains a half note D5, a half note E5, and a half note F#5. The eighth measure contains a half note G5, a half note A5, and a half note B5. The ninth measure contains a half note C6, a half note D6, and a half note E6. The tenth measure contains a half note F#6, a half note G6, and a half note A6. The eleventh measure contains a half note B6, a half note C7, and a half note D7. The twelfth measure contains a half note E7, a half note F#7, and a half note G7. The thirteenth measure contains a half note A7, a half note B7, and a half note C8. The fourteenth measure contains a half note D8, a half note E8, and a half note F#8. The fifteenth measure contains a half note G8, a half note A8, and a half note B8. The sixteenth measure contains a half note C9, a half note D9, and a half note E9. The seventeenth measure contains a half note F#9, a half note G9, and a half note A9. The eighteenth measure contains a half note B9, a half note C10, and a half note D10. The nineteenth measure contains a half note E10, a half note F#10, and a half note G10. The twentieth measure contains a half note A10, a half note B10, and a half note C11. The twenty-first measure contains a half note D11, a half note E11, and a half note F#11. The twenty-second measure contains a half note G11, a half note A11, and a half note B11. The twenty-third measure contains a half note C12, a half note D12, and a half note E12. The twenty-fourth measure contains a half note F#12, a half note G12, and a half note A12. The twenty-fifth measure contains a half note B12, a half note C13, and a half note D13. The twenty-sixth measure contains a half note E13, a half note F#13, and a half note G13. The twenty-seventh measure contains a half note A13, a half note B13, and a half note C14. The twenty-eighth measure contains a half note D14, a half note E14, and a half note F#14. The twenty-ninth measure contains a half note G14, a half note A14, and a half note B14. The thirtieth measure contains a half note C15, a half note D15, and a half note E15. The thirty-first measure contains a half note F#15, a half note G15, and a half note A15. The thirty-second measure contains a half note B15, a half note C16, and a half note D16. The thirty-third measure contains a half note E16, a half note F#16, and a half note G16. The thirty-fourth measure contains a half note A16, a half note B16, and a half note C17. The thirty-fifth measure contains a half note D17, a half note E17, and a half note F#17. The thirty-sixth measure contains a half note G17, a half note A17, and a half note B17. The thirty-seventh measure contains a half note C18, a half note D18, and a half note E18. The thirty-eighth measure contains a half note F#18, a half note G18, and a half note A18. The thirty-ninth measure contains a half note B18, a half note C19, and a half note D19. The fortieth measure contains a half note E19, a half note F#19, and a half note G19. The forty-first measure contains a half note A19, a half note B19, and a half note C20. The forty-second measure contains a half note D20, a half note E20, and a half note F#20. The forty-third measure contains a half note G20, a half note A20, and a half note B20. The forty-fourth measure contains a half note C21, a half note D21, and a half note E21. The forty-fifth measure contains a half note F#21, a half note G21, and a half note A21. The forty-sixth measure contains a half note B21, a half note C22, and a half note D22. The forty-seventh measure contains a half note E22, a half note F#22, and a half note G22. The forty-eighth measure contains a half note A22, a half note B22, and a half note C23. The forty-ninth measure contains a half note D23, a half note E23, and a half note F#23. The fiftieth measure contains a half note G23, a half note A23, and a half note B23. The fifty-first measure contains a half note C24, a half note D24, and a half note E24. The fifty-second measure contains a half note F#24, a half note G24, and a half note A24. The fifty-third measure contains a half note B24, a half note C25, and a half note D25. The fifty-fourth measure contains a half note E25, a half note F#25, and a half note G25. The fifty-fifth measure contains a half note A25, a half note B25, and a half note C26. The fifty-sixth measure contains a half note D26, a half note E26, and a half note F#26. The fifty-seventh measure contains a half note G26, a half note A26, and a half note B26. The fifty-eighth measure contains a half note C27, a half note D27, and a half note E27. The fifty-ninth measure contains a half note F#27, a half note G27, and a half note A27. The sixtieth measure contains a half note B27, a half note C28, and a half note D28. The sixty-first measure contains a half note E28, a half note F#28, and a half note G28. The sixty-second measure contains a half note A28, a half note B28, and a half note C29. The sixty-third measure contains a half note D29, a half note E29, and a half note F#29. The sixty-fourth measure contains a half note G29, a half note A29, and a half note B29. The sixty-fifth measure contains a half note C30, a half note D30, and a half note E30. The sixty-sixth measure contains a half note F#30, a half note G30, and a half note A30. The sixty-seventh measure contains a half note B30, a half note C31, and a half note D31. The sixty-eighth measure contains a half note E31, a half note F#31, and a half note G31. The sixty-ninth measure contains a half note A31, a half note B31, and a half note C32. The seventieth measure contains a half note D32, a half note E32, and a half note F#32. The seventy-first measure contains a half note G32, a half note A32, and a half note B32. The seventy-second measure contains a half note C33, a half note D33, and a half note E33. The seventy-third measure contains a half note F#33, a half note G33, and a half note A33. The seventy-fourth measure contains a half note B33, a half note C34, and a half note D34. The seventy-fifth measure contains a half note E34, a half note F#34, and a half note G34. The seventy-sixth measure contains a half note A34, a half note B34, and a half note C35. The seventy-seventh measure contains a half note D35, a half note E35, and a half note F#35. The seventy-eighth measure contains a half note G35, a half note A35, and a half note B35. The seventy-ninth measure contains a half note C36, a half note D36, and a half note E36. The eightieth measure contains a half note F#36, a half note G36, and a half note A36. The eighty-first measure contains a half note B36, a half note C37, and a half note D37. The eighty-second measure contains a half note E37, a half note F#37, and a half note G37. The eighty-third measure contains a half note A37, a half note B37, and a half note C38. The eighty-fourth measure contains a half note D38, a half note E38, and a half note F#38. The eighty-fifth measure contains a half note G38, a half note A38, and a half note B38. The eighty-sixth measure contains a half note C39, a half note D39, and a half note E39. The eighty-seventh measure contains a half note F#39, a half note G39, and a half note A39. The eighty-eighth measure contains a half note B39, a half note C40, and a half note D40. The eighty-ninth measure contains a half note E40, a half note F#40, and a half note G40. The ninetieth measure contains a half note A40, a half note B40, and a half note C41. The hundredth measure contains a half note D41, a half note E41, and a half note F#41. The hundred-first measure contains a half note G41, a half note A41, and a half note B41. The hundred-second measure contains a half note C42, a half note D42, and a half note E42. The hundred-third measure contains a half note F#42, a half note G42, and a half note A42. The hundred-fourth measure contains a half note B42, a half note C43, and a half note D43. The hundred-fifth measure contains a half note E43, a half note F#43, and a half note G43. The hundred-sixth measure contains a half note A43, a half note B43, and a half note C44. The hundred-seventh measure contains a half note D44, a half note E44, and a half note F#44. The hundred-eighth measure contains a half note G44, a half note A44, and a half note B44. The hundred-ninth measure contains a half note C45, a half note D45, and a half note E45. The hundred-tieth measure contains a half note F#45, a half note G45, and a half note A45. The hundred-first measure contains a half note B45, a half note C46, and a half note D46. The hundred-second measure contains a half note E46, a half note F#46, and a half note G46. The hundred-third measure contains a half note A46, a half note B46, and a half note C47. The hundred-fourth measure contains a half note D47, a half note E47, and a half note F#47. The hundred-fifth measure contains a half note G47, a half note A47, and a half note B47. The hundred-sixth measure contains a half note C48, a half note D48, and a half note E48. The hundred-seventh measure contains a half note F#48, a half note G48, and a half note A48. The hundred-eighth measure contains a half note B48, a half note C49, and a half note D49. The hundred-ninth measure contains a half note E49, a half note F#49, and a half note G49. The hundred-tieth measure contains a half note A49, a half note B49, and a half note C50. The hundred-first measure contains a half note D50, a half note E50, and a half note F#50. The hundred-second measure contains a half note G50, a half note A50, and a half note B50. The hundred-third measure contains a half note C51, a half note D51, and a half note E51. The hundred-fourth measure contains a half note F#51, a half note G51, and a half note A51. The hundred-fifth measure contains a half note B51, a half note C52, and a half note D52. The hundred-sixth measure contains a half note E52, a half note F#52, and a half note G52. The hundred-seventh measure contains a half note A52, a half note B52, and a half note C53. The hundred-eighth measure contains a half note D53, a half note E53, and a half note F#53. The hundred-ninth measure contains a half note G53, a half note A53, and a half note B53. The hundred-tieth measure contains a half note C54, a half note D54, and a half note E54. The hundred-first measure contains a half note F#54, a half note G54, and a half note A54. The hundred-second measure contains a half note B54, a half note C55, and a half note D55. The hundred-third measure contains a half note E55, a half note F#55, and a half note G55. The hundred-fourth measure contains a half note A55, a half note B55, and a half note C56. The hundred-fifth measure contains a half note D56, a half note E56, and a half note F#56. The hundred-sixth measure contains a half note G56, a half note A56, and a half note B56. The hundred-seventh measure contains a half note C57, a half note D57, and a half note E57. The hundred-eighth measure contains a half note F#57, a half note G57, and a half note A57. The hundred-ninth measure contains a half note B57, a half note C58, and a half note D58. The hundred-tieth measure contains a half note E58, a half note F#58, and a half note G58. The hundred-first measure contains a half note A58, a half note B58, and a half note C59. The hundred-second measure contains a half note D59, a half note E59, and a half note F#59. The hundred-third measure contains a half note G59, a half note A59, and a half note B59. The hundred-fourth measure contains a half note C60, a half note D60, and a half note E60. The hundred-fifth measure contains a half note F#60, a half note G60, and a half note A60. The hundred-sixth measure contains a half note B60, a half note C61, and a half note D61. The hundred-seventh measure contains a half note E61, a half note F#61, and a half note G61. The hundred-eighth measure contains a half note A61, a half note B61, and a half note C62. The hundred-ninth measure contains a half note D62, a half note E62, and a half note F#62. The hundred-tieth measure contains a half note G62, a half note A62, and a half note B62. The hundred-first measure contains a half note C63, a half note D63, and a half note E63. The hundred-second measure contains a half note F#63, a half note G63, and a half note A63. The hundred-third measure contains a half note B63, a half note C64, and a half note D64. The hundred-fourth measure contains a half note E64, a half note F#64, and a half note G64. The hundred-fifth measure contains a half note A64, a half

[illegible]

The musical notation for the bass line of 'The Rose Tree' is shown in two staves. The top staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of the following notes: G2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), B2 (quarter), C3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), F#3 (quarter), and G3 (half). The bottom staff is a tablature line with fret numbers: 4, 0, 0, 5, 0, 0, 2, and 0.

CD
20 **Example 16**

This one uses most of the notes in the major pentatonic scale plus the flat third. The technique of using both the minor and major third is very common to rock and blues. The example uses both **open** and **closed position**. Open position means the open strings are used and closed position means they are not used. To play both thirds in closed position, slide the left hand first finger up from the minor third to the major third (D - D#).

Open position:

Closed position:

The first system shows the initial two measures. The left hand (L.H.) is indicated above the staff. The first measure is in open position, and the second is in closed position. The fretboard below shows fingerings: 0 0 3 4 | 2 2 4 2 for the first measure, and 7 7 | 5 6 9 9 | 6 9 for the second measure.

N.C.

E7

The second system shows measures 3 and 4. Measure 3 is marked N.C. (Natural Chord) and measure 4 is marked E7. The fretboard shows fingerings: 7 5 | 7 for measure 3, and 0 0 3 4 | 2 2 4 2 | 0 0 3 4 | 2 2 4 2 for measure 4.

A7

The third system shows measures 5 and 6. Both measures are marked A7. The fretboard shows fingerings: 0 0 3 4 | 2 2 4 2 for measure 5, and 0 0 3 4 | 2 2 4 2 | 0 0 3 4 | 2 2 4 2 for measure 6.

E7

B7

A7

The fourth system shows measures 7, 8, and 9. Measures 7 and 8 are marked E7, and measure 9 is marked B7. The fretboard shows fingerings: 0 0 3 4 | 2 2 4 2 for measure 7, 0 0 3 4 | 2 2 4 2 for measure 8, and 7 7 | 5 6 9 9 | 6 9 for measure 9.

1. E7 B7 2. E

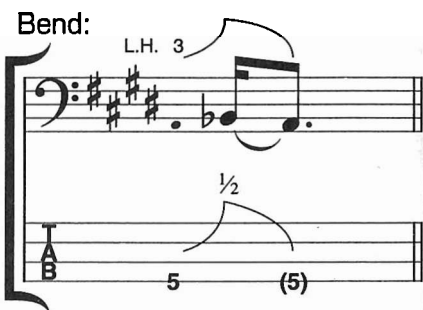
The fifth system shows the first and second endings. The first ending is marked 1. and the second ending is marked 2. The fretboard shows fingerings: 0 0 3 4 | 2 2 4 2 for the first ending, and 0 1 2 for the second ending. The second ending leads back to the beginning of the first measure.

SIXTEENTH NOTE ROCK FEELS

This section covers several sixteenth note feels. Sixteenth notes receive a quarter of a beat in 4/4 time. To count sixteenth notes, use the syllables “e” and “a” for the notes between the beats and up beats (1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a 4 e & a). A good example of a sixteenth note feel is the bass line from the song “Goin’ Down” by Jeff Beck, shown in Example 17.

CD 21 Example 17

In addition to the sixteenth-note feel, this example also uses a technique known as the **bend**. To bend the string, pull the fourth string down towards the third string until the pitch raises from A to B $\flat$, then release the string to allow the pitch to return to A. It is helpful to use more than one finger in the left hand when bending a string, fretting the note with the third finger but keeping the first and second fingers on the string for support. Be sure to listen to make sure the bend is in tune.



Example 17 consists of three musical staves, each showing a sixteenth-note bass line in E major (two sharps) and a corresponding fretboard diagram below it.

Staff 1 (E7): The bass line starts with a quarter rest, followed by four measures of eighth notes: A2, B2, C#3, D#3. The fifth measure contains a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note A2, and then a half note B $\flat$ 3. The fretboard diagram shows the fourth string (A) being fretted at the 5th fret (A) and then bent to B $\flat$ 3 (indicated by a flat sign and a 1/2 bend symbol).

Staff 2 (A7): The bass line starts with a quarter rest, followed by four measures of eighth notes: A2, B2, C#3, D#3. The fifth measure contains a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note A2, and then a half note B $\flat$ 3. The fretboard diagram shows the fourth string (A) being fretted at the 5th fret (A) and then bent to B $\flat$ 3 (indicated by a flat sign and a 1/2 bend symbol).

Staff 3 (E7): The bass line starts with a quarter rest, followed by four measures of eighth notes: A2, B2, C#3, D#3. The fifth measure contains a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note A2, and then a half note B $\flat$ 3. The fretboard diagram shows the fourth string (A) being fretted at the 5th fret (A) and then bent to B $\flat$ 3 (indicated by a flat sign and a 1/2 bend symbol).

B7

The first system shows a bass line with a B7 chord and a guitar line with a 7th fret pattern. The guitar line consists of a series of 7th fret notes (B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B) followed by a 5th fret note (D) and a 3rd fret note (G).

E7

The second system shows a bass line with an E7 chord and a guitar line with a 0th fret pattern. The guitar line consists of a series of 0th fret notes (E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E) followed by a 4th fret note (A) and a 6th fret note (B).

E7

The third system shows a bass line with an E7 chord and a guitar line with a 0th fret pattern. The guitar line consists of a series of 0th fret notes (E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E) followed by a 4th fret note (A) and a 6th fret note (B).

The fourth system shows a bass line with a B7 chord and a guitar line with a 0th fret pattern. The guitar line consists of a series of 0th fret notes (E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E) followed by a 4th fret note (A) and a 6th fret note (B).

A7

The fifth system shows a bass line with an A7 chord and a guitar line with a 7th fret pattern. The guitar line consists of a series of 7th fret notes (B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B) followed by a 5th fret note (D) and a 3rd fret note (G).

E7

The sixth system shows a bass line with an E7 chord and a guitar line with a 0th fret pattern. The guitar line consists of a series of 0th fret notes (E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E) followed by a 4th fret note (A) and a 6th fret note (B).

B7

rit.

E7

The seventh system shows a bass line with a B7 chord and a guitar line with a 7th fret pattern. The guitar line consists of a series of 7th fret notes (B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B) followed by a 5th fret note (D) and a 3rd fret note (G).

CD

22

Example 18

This example is similar to many of the bass lines played by Rocco Prestia from Tower of Power. The sixteenth notes move up chromatically to the root (E) and fifth (B) via connecting lines. Practice the example slowly at first to develop a clean attack, then slowly speed up. Use a metronome or drum machine.

E9

ROCK SHUFFLE AND BOOGIE FEELS

This next section deals primarily with rock shuffle feels. A shuffle is usually described as playing the eighth notes of a song with a triplet feel, where the eighth notes are played on the first and last part of the triplet. A triplet is playing three notes per beat and by cutting out the middle note, this gives you the shuffle feel. Shuffles are also written in 12/8 time, where there are 12 eighth notes per bar, grouped into four sets of three eighth notes. This is similar to playing four beats of triplets. Be sure to listen to the audio examples to hear the difference between the shuffle feels in this section and the "straight" feels in the previous sections.

CD 23 **Example 19**

Here is a simple shuffle feel, using mostly roots and simple chromatic lines approaching the chord changes. Remember to alternate the right hand fingers. This will help to play the shuffle feel at faster tempos.

The musical notation for Example 19 consists of three systems, each with a bass clef staff and a guitar tablature staff below it. The time signature is 12/8, indicated by a '4' in the first system's staff.

System 1: G7
The staff contains three measures of eighth notes. The tablature below shows the fret numbers for each eighth note: 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3.

System 2: C7
The staff contains three measures of eighth notes. The tablature below shows the fret numbers: 3, 3, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 2.

System 3: G7 D7
The staff contains three measures of eighth notes. The tablature below shows the fret numbers: 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 4, 4.

C7 G7 D7

3 3 0 0 1 1 2 2 | 3 3 2 2 3 3 4 4 | 5 5 4 5 0 1 2

G7

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 0 0 1 1 2 2 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

C7

3 3 0 0 1 1 2 2 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 0 0 1 1 2 2

G7 D7

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 2 2 3 3 4 4 | 5 5 0 0 1 1 2 2

C7 G7

3 3 0 0 1 1 2 2 | 3 2 3 4 | 5 2 4 5 3

CD
24 Example 20: Staccato Shuffle

Here is another shuffle that uses a staccato feel. Remember that to play staccato, simply lift the left hand finger off of the string for just a moment. You can see how the notes are cut off, which leaves just a tiny amount of space. That little bit of room between the notes makes the feel bounce just a little more than the legato feel.

G7

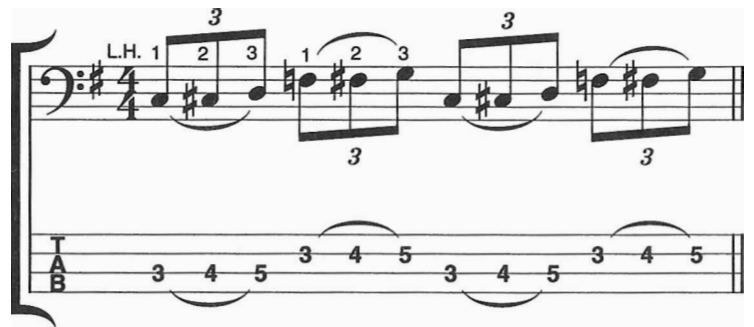
C7

G7 D7 C7

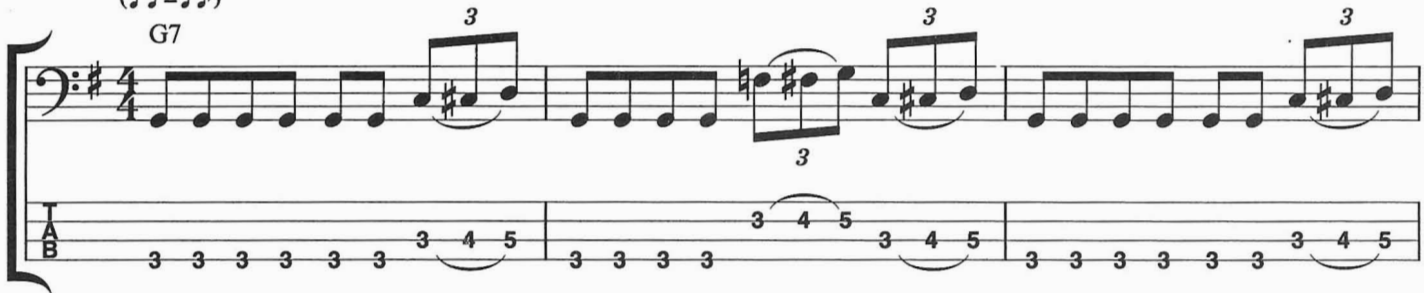
1. G7 D7 2. G7

CD
25 **Example 21**

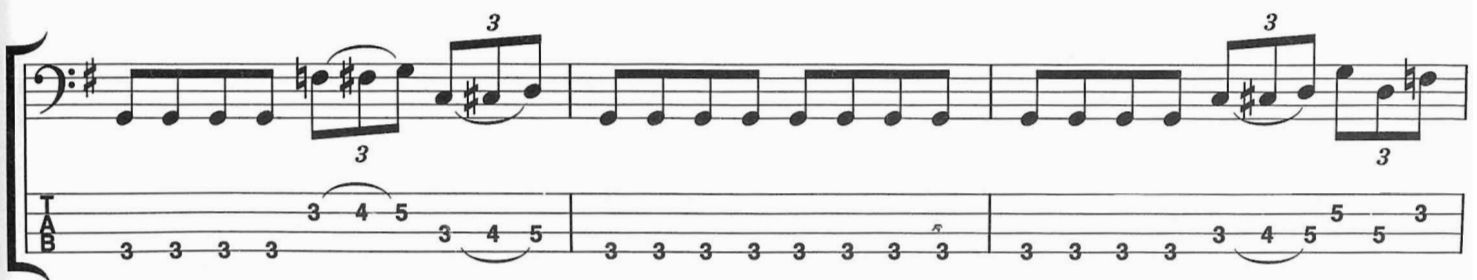
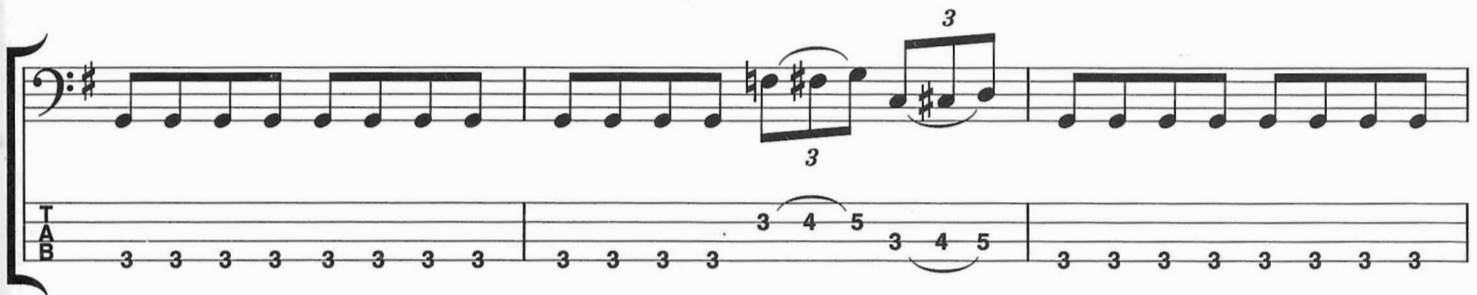
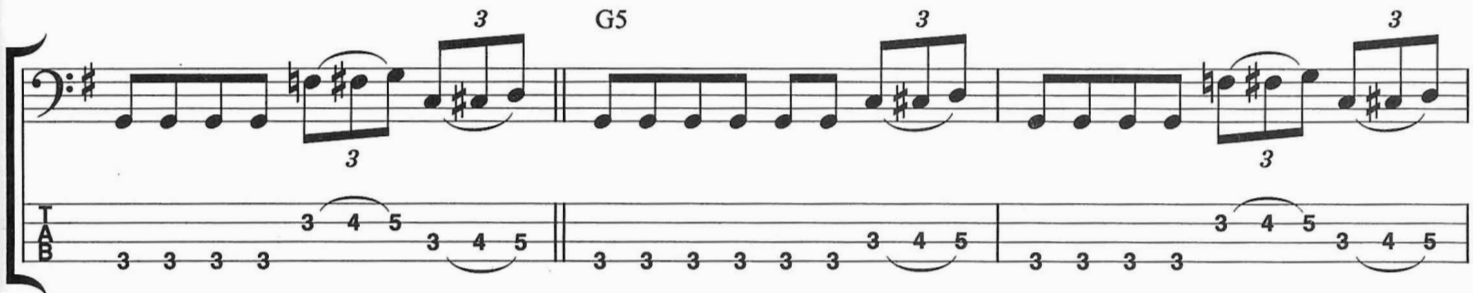
This example introduces another hammer-on technique, where the notes are sounded by hammering the string to the fretboard rather than the right hand attack. This example uses a triplet hammer-on in the left hand. The note is sounded by the right hand attack, then the second finger hammers on, followed by the third finger, in the rhythm of a triplet. Practice making the attack of the left hand sound similar to the attack of the right hand.



(♩ = $\frac{3}{4}$ ♩)
G7



G5



Chord progression: E^b D7 E^b

Bass line: 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 | 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 | 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

Chord progression: D7 G5

Bass line: 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Bass line: 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Bass line: 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Chord progression: E^b D7 E^b

Bass line: 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 | 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 | 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

Chord progression: D7 G

Bass line: 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

CD
26 **Example 22**

This example is in the style known as the **Chicago shuffle**. The Chicago shuffle is characterized by its root down to the fifth movement, alternating shuffle eighth notes root-fifth (C-G). The example also uses connecting lines similar to those used in previous examples.

The musical score for Example 22 is written in 4/4 time and features a Chicago shuffle style. It consists of six systems, each with a bass staff and a guitar staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The bass staff uses a 4/4 time signature. The guitar staff uses a 4/4 time signature. The score includes various chords (C7, F7, G7) and a final chord (F#m). The guitar staff includes a final chord (F#m) and a final chord (F#m).

System 1: Bass staff starts with a C7 chord. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature. The bass staff has a 4/4 time signature. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature.

System 2: Bass staff starts with an F7 chord. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature. The bass staff has a 4/4 time signature. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature.

System 3: Bass staff starts with a G7 chord. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature. The bass staff has a 4/4 time signature. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature.

System 4: Bass staff starts with a C7 chord. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature. The bass staff has a 4/4 time signature. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature.

System 5: Bass staff starts with an F7 chord. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature. The bass staff has a 4/4 time signature. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature.

System 6: Bass staff starts with a G7 chord. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature. The bass staff has a 4/4 time signature. The guitar staff has a 4/4 time signature.

CD
 27 **Example 23**

This example introduces the **boogie feel**. A boogie feel is a shuffle characterized by a constantly repeated bass figure, which is highly syncopated and stresses the up-beats over the down-beats. This feel is important to learn, due to the fact that rock music has been greatly influenced by boogie music. The important thing to remember about the boogie feel is that it is extremely syncopated, with most of the notes occurring on the up-beats.

(♩ = $\frac{3}{4}$)
 E7

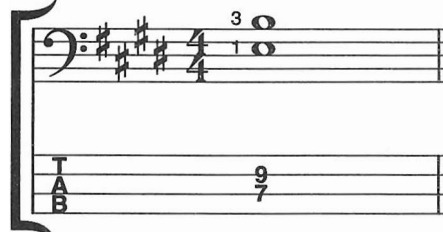
The musical score for Example 23 is presented in five systems, each containing a bass staff and a guitar TAB staff. The key signature is E major (four sharps). The first system is marked with a 4/4 time signature and an E7 chord. The TAB staff shows fret numbers (0, 3, 5, 7, 12) and includes a '12 \ 0' notation. The subsequent systems continue the bass line and guitar accompaniment. The final system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

CD

28 **Example 24**

This example is similar to Example 22 only this time using **power chords**. A power chord is played by combining the root and the fifth together, and is similar to playing a major or minor triad without the third. This makes the power chord very popular in rock and blues because when improvising, both thirds can be used without clashing with the chords.

E power chord:



The musical score for Example 24 consists of five systems, each with a bass clef staff and a guitar fretboard diagram. The key signature is E major (four sharps). The first system is marked 'E7'. The guitar staff shows various power chords (7/5, 9/7) and fret numbers (5, 7, 9) indicating the fretting hand positions. The bass staff shows the corresponding notes and rests.

^{CD}
29 Example 25

This example is a boogie feel in 12/8, meaning there are 12 eighth notes per measure. This is similar to playing triplets in 4/4 time, much like a shuffle feel. The feel is set up by alternating the right hand fingers on the third and fourth strings. Remember to keep your right hand fingers in the same position and you will get a consistent sound.

12/8 feel:



Triplet feel:



E9

The main musical example consists of five systems of music. Each system has a bass staff and a fretboard. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 12/8. The melody is written in eighth notes. The fretboard shows a sequence of fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0. The first system is labeled **E9**. The fretboard for the first system shows a sequence of fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0. The fretboard for the second system shows a sequence of fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 7, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0. The fretboard for the third system shows a sequence of fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 7, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0. The fretboard for the fourth system shows a sequence of fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 7, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 5, 6, 7. The fretboard for the fifth system shows a sequence of fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 7, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

[illegible][illegible]

CD
30 **Example 26**

This example is the primary riff from the tune “Lies” by Tim Bogart. Like Example 25, this example is in 12/8 and the triplet feel is set up by the right hand. The example alternates between the open fourth string root (E) and the 6 (C#), flat 7 (D) and octave on the third string, and ends with a very common descending minor pentatonic riff.

Musical notation for E7 in 12/8 time. The bass line consists of eighth notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, A6, B6, C7, D7, E7, F#7, G7, A7, B7, C8, D8, E8, F#8, G8, A8, B8, C9, D9, E9, F#9, G9, A9, B9, C10, D10, E10, F#10, G10, A10, B10, C11, D11, E11, F#11, G11, A11, B11, C12, D12, E12, F#12, G12, A12, B12, C13, D13, E13, F#13, G13, A13, B13, C14, D14, E14, F#14, G14, A14, B14, C15, D15, E15, F#15, G15, A15, B15, C16, D16, E16, F#16, G16, A16, B16, C17, D17, E17, F#17, G17, A17, B17, C18, D18, E18, F#18, G18, A18, B18, C19, D19, E19, F#19, G19, A19, B19, C20, D20, E20, F#20, G20, A20, B20, C21, D21, E21, F#21, G21, A21, B21, C22, D22, E22, F#22, G22, A22, B22, C23, D23, E23, F#23, G23, A23, B23, C24, D24, E24, F#24, G24, A24, B24, C25, D25, E25, F#25, G25, A25, B25, C26, D26, E26, F#26, G26, A26, B26, C27, D27, E27, F#27, G27, A27, B27, C28, D28, E28, F#28, G28, A28, B28, C29, D29, E29, F#29, G29, A29, B29, C30, D30, E30, F#30, G30, A30, B30, C31, D31, E31, F#31, G31, A31, B31, C32, D32, E32, F#32, G32, A32, B32, C33, D33, E33, F#33, G33, A33, B33, C34, D34, E34, F#34, G34, A34, B34, C35, D35, E35, F#35, G35, A35, B35, C36, D36, E36, F#36, G36, A36, B36, C37, D37, E37, F#37, G37, A37, B37, C38, D38, E38, F#38, G38, A38, B38, C39, D39, E39, F#39, G39, A39, B39, C40, D40, E40, F#40, G40, A40, B40, C41, D41, E41, F#41, G41, A41, B41, C42, D42, E42, F#42, G42, A42, B42, C43, D43, E43, F#43, G43, A43, B43, C44, D44, E44, F#44, G44, A44, B44, C45, D45, E45, F#45, G45, A45, B45, C46, D46, E46, F#46, G46, A46, B46, C47, D47, E47, F#47, G47, A47, B47, C48, D48, E48, F#48, G48, A48, B48, C49, D49, E49, F#49, G49, A49, B49, C50, D50, E50, F#50, G50, A50, B50, C51, D51, E51, F#51, G51, A51, B51, C52, D52, E52, F#52, G52, A52, B52, C53, D53, E53, F#53, G53, A53, B53, C54, D54, E54, F#54, G54, A54, B54, C55, D55, E55, F#55, G55, A55, B55, C56, D56, E56, F#56, G56, A56, B56, C57, D57, E57, F#57, G57, A57, B57, C58, D58, E58, F#58, G58, A58, B58, C59, D59, E59, F#59, G59, A59, B59, C60, D60, E60, F#60, G60, A60, B60, C61, D61, E61, F#61, G61, A61, B61, C62, D62, E62, F#62, G62, A62, B62, C63, D63, E63, F#63, G63, A63, B63, C64, D64, E64, F#64, G64, A64, B64, C65, D65, E65, F#65, G65, A65, B65, C66, D66, E66, F#66, G66, A66, B66, C67, D67, E67, F#67, G67, A67, B67, C68, D68, E68, F#68, G68, A68, B68, C69, D69, E69, F#69, G69, A69, B69, C70, D70, E70, F#70, G70, A70, B70, C71, D71, E71, F#71, G71, A71, B71, C72, D72, E72, F#72, G72, A72, B72, C73, D73, E73, F#73, G73, A73, B73, C74, D74, E74, F#74, G74, A74, B74, C75, D75, E75, F#75, G75, A75, B75, C76, D76, E76, F#76, G76, A76, B76, C77, D77, E77, F#77, G77, A77, B77, C78, D78, E78, F#78, G78, A78, B78, C79, D79, E79, F#79, G79, A79, B79, C80, D80, E80, F#80, G80, A80, B80, C81, D81, E81, F#81, G81, A81, B81, C82, D82, E82, F#82, G82, A82, B82, C83, D83, E83, F#83, G83, A83, B83, C84, D84, E84, F#84, G84, A84, B84, C85, D85, E85, F#85, G85, A85, B85, C86, 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G111, A111, B111, C112, D112, E112, F#112, G112, A112, B112, C113, D113, E113, F#113, G113, A113, B113, C114, D114, E114, F#114, G114, A114, B114, C115, D115, E115, F#115, G115, A115, B115, C116, D116, E116, F#116, G116, A116, B116, C117, D117, E117, F#117, G117, A117, B117, C118, D118, E118, F#118, G118, A118, B118, C119, D119, E119, F#119, G119, A119, B119, C120, D120, E120, F#120, G120, A120, B120, C121, D121, E121, F#121, G121, A121, B121, C122, D122, E122, F#122, G122, A122, B122, C123, D123, E123, F#123, G123, A123, B123, C124, D124, E124, F#124, G124, A124, B124, C125, D125, E125, F#125, G125, A125, B125, C126, D126, E126, F#126, G126, A126, B126, C127, D127, E127, F#127, G127, A127, B127, C128, D128, E128, F#128, G128, A128, B128, C129, D129, E129, F#129, G129, A129, B129, C130, D130, E130, F#130, G130, A130, B130, C131, D131, E131, F#131, G131, A131, B131, C132, D132, E132, F#132, G132, A132, B132, C133, D133, E133, F#133, G133, A133, B133, C134, D134, E134, F#134, G134, A134, B134, C135, D13

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in two systems. The first system consists of a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second system consists of two staves. The top staff continues the melody, starting with a quarter note C5, followed by a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The bottom staff provides a bass line, starting with a quarter note F3, followed by a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, and a quarter note C3. The piece concludes with a final chord of G4, B4, and D5.

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in two systems. The first system features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is written on a five-line staff, starting with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4-B4, quarter notes C5-B4, eighth notes A4-G4, and a quarter note F#4. The second system continues the melody with a quarter note E4, followed by eighth notes D4-C4, quarter notes B3-A3, eighth notes G3-F#3, and a quarter note E3. The piece concludes with a double bar line. Below the staff, the guitar fretboard is indicated with numbers 0, 0, 4, 0, 5, 0, 4, 0, 5, 0, 7, 0, representing the fret positions for each note in the melody.

CD
31 Example 27

This example uses a major pentatonic pattern similar to Example 16, but this time uses shuffle eighth notes instead of straight eighth notes.

(♩ = ♩³)
 E7

TAB

0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2

A7

0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2

E7

0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2

B7

7 7 5 6 9 9 6 9

E7

7 7 5 6 9 9 6 9

0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2

2 3 2

Bass staff with treble clef and key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The staff contains a continuous eighth-note melody. Below the staff is a guitar tablature with two lines, T (Treble) and B (Bass). The B line contains the following fret numbers: 0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2 | 0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2 | 0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2.

Bass staff with treble clef and key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The staff contains a continuous eighth-note melody. Above the staff, the chord **A7** is indicated. Below the staff is a guitar tablature with two lines, T (Treble) and B (Bass). The B line contains the following fret numbers: 0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2 | 0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2 | 0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2.

Bass staff with treble clef and key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The staff contains a continuous eighth-note melody. Above the staff, the chords **E7** and **B7** are indicated. Below the staff is a guitar tablature with two lines, T (Treble) and B (Bass). The B line contains the following fret numbers: 0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2 | 0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2 | 7 7 5 6 9 9 6 9.

Bass staff with treble clef and key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The staff contains a continuous eighth-note melody. Above the staff, the chord **E7** is indicated. Below the staff is a guitar tablature with two lines, T (Treble) and B (Bass). The B line contains the following fret numbers: 7 7 5 6 9 9 6 9 | 0 0 3 4 2 2 4 2 | 0 0 0 0.

TAPPING, HARMONICS AND DOUBLE-STOPS

This section will cover some “tricky little bits” that work really well to impress people: tapping, harmonics and double-stops. **Tapping** is a fun thing, made popular by Billy Sheehan. While holding your left hand finger on the neck, you “tap” the note to the fretboard with the tip of your right hand index finger, then pull down on the string as you release the right hand note to sound the left hand note.

^{CD} **32 Example 28**

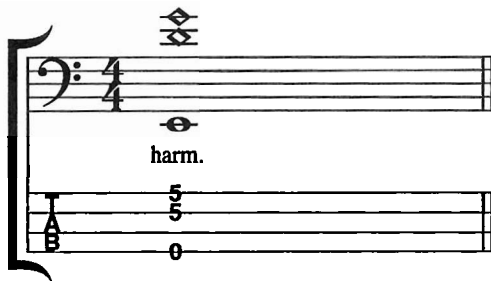
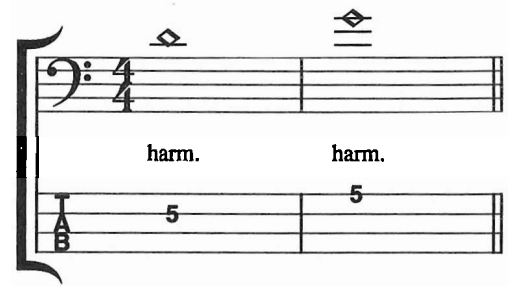
*Indicates R. H. tap.

Tapping can also be used in conjunction with left hand hammer-ons and pull-offs.

*Indicates L. H. tap.

CD
33 **Example 29**

Harmonics are found at various points on the bass and can be used to play chords, melodies or just for effect. To play a harmonic on the bass, lightly touch the string directly over a fret (do not depress the string to the fret-board). Pluck with the picking hand. You should hear a ringing "bell" like sound.

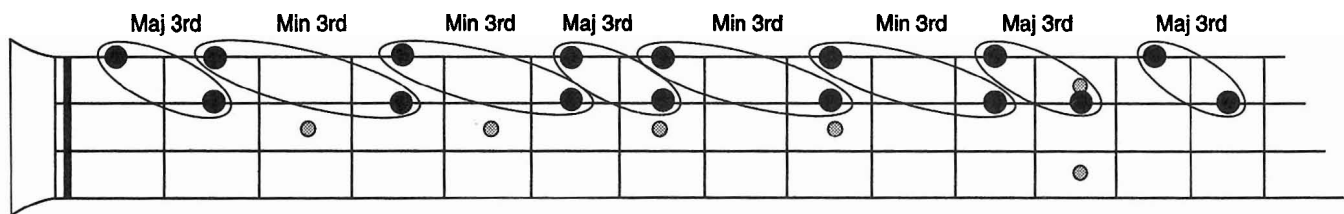


By combining more than one harmonic, they can be used to play chords. If you play the harmonics at the fifth fret on the first and second strings with the open fourth string, they combine to form a lovely E minor 7 chord.

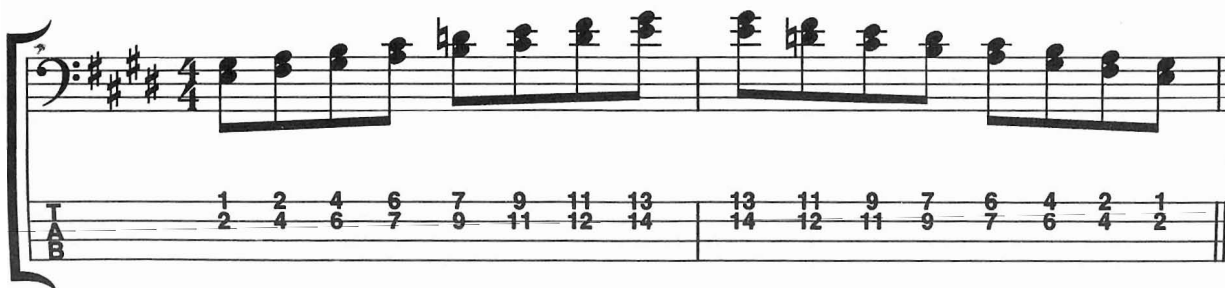
Practice locating the various harmonics on the bass and experiment with using them in scales and chords.

CD
34 **Example 30**

Double-stops are simply playing two notes at the same time. A common technique is to harmonize a scale using double-stops in a series of major and minor thirds, using the notes from that scale.



The example below shows the E mixolydian scale (which is the same as the A major scale starting on E) harmonized up to the octave, all played on the first two strings. After reaching the octave, the pattern repeats again (as far as the neck on your bass allows).



CD

35

Example 31

This example combines two of the previous techniques into one exercise. It begins with the harmonics at the fifth and seventh frets, and then moves into the tapping section. Remember to start slowly and gradually increase the tempo using a metronome or drum machine.

The musical score for Example 31 is presented in three systems, each with a bass staff and a guitar staff. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4.

System 1: The bass staff begins with a whole note chord marked "N.C." (Natural Chord). The guitar staff shows natural harmonics at the 5th and 7th frets, labeled "harm.". The fretboard diagram shows the 5th fret (5) and 7th fret (7) on the high E string, with the low E string at the 0th fret.

System 2: The bass staff features a sequence of eighth notes, starting with a natural chord marked "E5". The guitar staff shows a tapping exercise with fret numbers 11, 7, and 9, marked with "+" signs. The fretboard diagram shows the 11th, 7th, and 9th frets on the high E string, with the low E string at the 0th fret.

System 3: The bass staff continues the sequence of eighth notes. The guitar staff shows a more complex tapping exercise with fret numbers 13, 7, 9, 14, 7, 9, 14, 7, 9, 14, 7, 9, 11, 7, 9, 11, 7, 9, 11, 7, 9, 11, 7, 9. The fretboard diagram shows the 13th, 7th, 9th, 14th, 7th, 9th, 14th, 7th, 9th, 14th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 7th, 9th frets on the high E string, with the low E string at the 0th fret.

First musical system. The bass staff is in E major (three sharps) and contains a sequence of eighth notes with double-stops, each marked with a '+' sign. The guitar staff shows the fretting hand positions: 13, 7, 9, 14, 7, 9, 14, 7, 9, 14, 7, 9, 14, 9.

Second musical system. The bass staff is in E major and contains a sequence of eighth notes with double-stops, each marked with a '+' sign. The guitar staff shows the fretting hand positions: 9, 5, 7, 9, 5, 7, 9, 5, 7, 9, 5, 7, 11, 5, 7, 12, 5, 7, 12, 5, 7, 12, 5, 7, 12, 7.

Third musical system, labeled '1.'. The bass staff is in E major and contains a sequence of eighth notes with double-stops, each marked with a '+' sign. The guitar staff shows the fretting hand positions: 9, 5, 7, 9, 5, 7, 9, 5, 7, 9, 5, 7, 11.

Fourth musical system, labeled '2.'. The bass staff is in E major and contains a sequence of eighth notes with double-stops, each marked with a '+' sign. The guitar staff shows the fretting hand positions: 11, 5, 7, 12, 5, 7, 14, 5, 7, 16, 5, 7, 17, 5, 19, 19. A dashed line labeled '8va' indicates an octave shift for the final notes.

36

Example 32

This exercise introduces a technique known as a “power slide,” which is simply playing the fifth fret D power chord and sliding it up to the seventh fret E power chord. The example also uses the slash chord, where the third is used in the bass instead of the root.

The first measure of the piece is in the bass clef, labeled "L.H." (Left Hand). The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The notation shows a triplet of eighth notes: F#4, C#5, and G#5. Above the notes are the numbers 3 and 1, indicating a triplet of eighth notes. The measure ends with a quarter rest.

E5 A D E5

TAB: 0 0 | 0 0 0 | (0) 0 3 0 | (0) 0 3 0 0

[illegible]

The Rose Tree

J. S. Bach

3/4

F# C# G#

F# C#

C

F# C#

0 3 0 0 0 0

7 7/9 7 7/5 0 0 3 0 0

4 4/5 0 0 3 0 0

(0) 5 5 0 0 3 0 0

(0) 0 3 0 0

(0) 0 3 0 0

(0) 0 3 0 0

First system of musical notation for 'The Wind' on the bass staff. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is written in a single line with various note values and rests. Chord symbols A, D, and E5 are placed above the staff. The fretboard diagram below shows the fingerings for the notes: (0) for F#, 5 for C#, 5/7 for G#, 4 for F#, 4/5 for C#, and 0 for G#.

Musical score for "The Wind" by The Beatles. The score is written for bass guitar and includes a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The bass line consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. The chords A, D, and E5 are indicated above the staff. The score ends with a double bar line.

Chords: A, D, E5

Bass line notation (TAB):

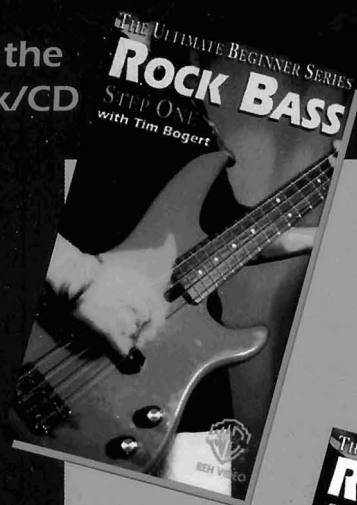
T A B (0) 5 5/7 7/9 4 4/5 0 (0) 0 3 0 0 (0) 0 3 0



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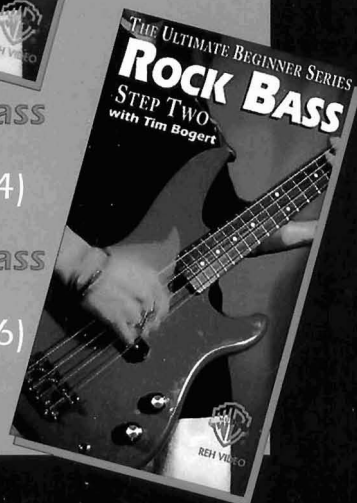
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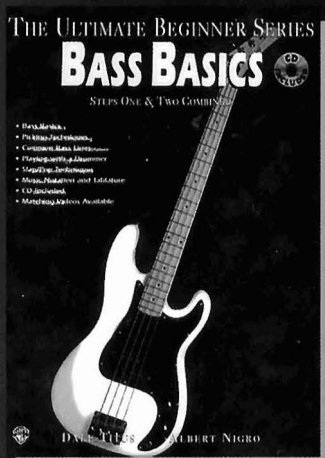


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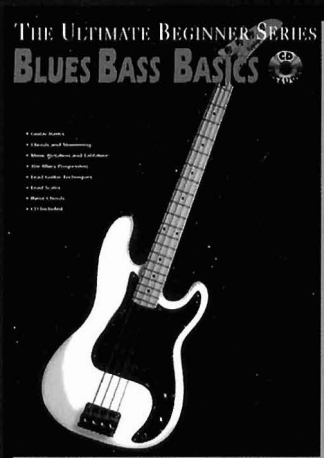
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